

Rationale for Training Portfolio

Title: Panther Flight

Grade: 7

Year released: 2007

Reflective Piece Title: Dear Reviewer

2 Content (2,2,3)

The writing demonstrates an attempt to reflect on literacy with lapse in focus. Although the music analogy is effectively developed it indicates the writer did not fully understand the purpose for the reflective piece. This also caused the writing to indicate some awareness of the audience's needs but not fully satisfy them. The writing demonstrates depth in idea development through the use of the comparison of writing class and band class and contains some glimmers of insightful and reflective thinking.

4 Structure (4,4,4)

The writing is carefully organized. The writer carefully ordered her thoughts through the use of the music analogy. A variety of transitional elements ("needless to say," "as it was in band," "of course,) as well as repetition "details, details, details" enhance the meaning. The use of varied and complex sentence structure is evidenced throughout the writing.

4 Conventions (4,4,4)

This writing demonstrates the ability to use conventions creatively and effectively to enhance meaning. The use of numbers, italics, parentheses, capitalization, etc. is handled with a deft hand. This writing demonstrates careful decisions about how to manipulate language for the greatest effect.

Instructional Implications:

One instructional implication could be to help extend the thinking of the writer beyond the use of the analogy to a literacy connection.

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Personal OR Literary Piece Title: Panther Flight

4 Content (4,4,4,)

From the introductory paragraph to its conclusion, the writing exemplifies an insightful focused purpose (the continuity of life, the maternal instinct). Through the use of thoughtshots, a first person narrative, and vivid details that enable the reader to experience the panther flight, the audience is captivated.

4 Structure (4,4,4)

Because of careful planning by the writer on where to place thoughtshots, dialogue, and actual narrative, the writing is easy to read. Without conscious thought, the reader moves through the panther flight until an insightful conclusion (one in which the child becomes the parent) is achieved. Examples of varied and complex sentences that enhance meaning can be found throughout.

4 Conventions (4,4,4)

Every decision evidenced in this writing (the use of ellipses, asterisks, italics, quotation marks, etc.) enhances the writer's ability to communicate with the audience. The writing demonstrates rich and precise word choice that is appropriate for the audience.

Instructional Implications: None

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Transactive Piece Title: Bullying and Harassment

4 Content (4,4,4)

This writing indicates an insightful, focused purpose throughout (the influence of hormones on bullying and harassment.) The writing indicates a strong awareness of audience's needs through a variety of idea development and support strategies (facts, statistics, interviews, anecdotes, reflections). This writing exemplifies writing for a specific audience for a specific purpose. Because the audience consists of individuals within the writer's school, there is little need to define terms such as "D.T" and "star card."

3 Structure (3,3,4)

This writing indicates logical, coherent organization although the transition to Harry Potter is not as effective as the transitions in the other parts. Effective transitional elements such as "For awhile," "But it's not just the hormones" and the writer in fulfilling her purpose. The writing demonstrates variety and complexity in sentence structure to enhance meaning.

4 Conventions (4,4,4)

This writing demonstrates control of grammar, usage, and correctness in such a way as to enhance communication. The use of parenthetical, dashes, italics, and other standard punctuation are appropriate for the author's audience and purpose. Furthermore, word choice is precise and accurate ("vendetta," "catfights," "tortured...constant rumors," "calming estrogen").

Instructional Implications:

A study of different organizational techniques and transitional elements is needed.